

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet, which includes Fig. 1, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 25-48 are pending in the present application, and are amended by the present amendment. Support for amended Claims 25-48 can be found in the original specification, claims and drawings.¹ No new matter is presented.

In the Office Action, the Claims 26-32, 34-40 and 42-48 and Fig. 1 are objected to because of minor informalities; Claims 25-32 and 33-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as directed to non-statutory subject matter; and Claims 25-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Wilson et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,670,908, herein Wilson).

The Office Action objects to Fig. 1 and dependent Claims 26-32, 34-40 and 42-48 citing minor informalities. In response, the preamble of Claims 26-32, 34-40 and 42-48 are amended and labels are added to Fig. 1, as recommended in the Office Action.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to Claims 26-32, 34-40 and 42-48 and Fig. 1 be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects to Claims 25-32 and 33-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as directed to non-statutory subject matter. In response, independent Claim 25 is amended to recite that the server includes components such as a “network interface”, “memory”, “processor” and “output”, which are clearly hardware components. Further, independent Claim 33 is amended to recite “a computer-readable recording medium including computer program code, which when executed by one or more processors of a computer-based risk detection server causes the server ...”, so as to define a specific interrelationship between the recording medium and processor of the server.

¹ e.g., Fig. 1 and paragraphs [0020]-[0026] and [0037]-[0041] of the publication of the present disclosure (U.S. Pub. 2008/0243917).

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 25-32 and 33-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects Claims 25-48 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Wilson. In response to this rejection, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claims 25, 33 and 41 recite novel features clearly not taught or rendered obvious by the applied references.

Amended independent Claim 25, for example, recites, in part, a computer-based risk detection system comprising:

... a network interface, at the server, configured to receive risk information from geographical distributed computerized data sources located in first geographical areas via the communication network, the risk information including an identification of a specific risk, a rating of the specific risk, and information for associating the specific risk with one of the first geographical areas ...

a memory configured to store a plurality of correlation factors associated with geographical areas and/or a plurality of stored data about spreading patterns, wherein *each of said plurality of correlation factors associated with geographical areas and/or plurality of stored data about spreading patterns correspond to a different one of a plurality of specific risks including risks associated with technical, ecological, geological, meteorological, epidemiological, cultural, political and economical systems;*

a processor configured to detect a specific risk emerging in one of the first geographical areas and spreading to one or more second geographical areas based on stored risk information including the rating of the specific risk assigned to the one of the first geographical areas and based on the stored correlation factors and/or data about spreading patterns ...

Independent Claims 33 and 41, while directed to alternative embodiments, are amended to recite similar features. Accordingly, the remarks and arguments presented below are applicable to each of amended independent Claims 25, 33 and 41.

Turning to the applied reference, Wilson describes a computer based method of processing meteorological data to automatically characterize significant meteorological events is disclosed. Wilson describes that meteorological data is received and processed to generate a plurality of distinct threat products for a given geographic area, and the threat products are combined over the given geographic area to create a composite threat product,

which is automatically compared to predetermined threshold values to identify one or more areas of meteorological threats.

Further, in rejecting the claimed features directed to storing the “correlation factors associated with geographical areas and/or a plurality of stored data about spreading patterns”, the Office Action relies on col. 6, ll. 56-65, col. 7, ll. 15-20 and col. 8, ll. 12-13:23-26 of Wilson. These cited portions of Wilson describe that the three types of meteorological threat information are may be combined to produce a composite threat field which is compared to one or more threshold values that are either preprogrammed or user definable. Those portions of the composite threat field meeting and/or exceeding one or more of the threshold values are automatically identified as an area of threat and are immediately available for graphic display, for automated alert notification, or can be disseminated through various other mechanisms. Wilson also describes that the received meteorological data may be used with storm tracking to predict an area that the meteorological occurrences may affect.

Thus, the system of Wilson is limited to meteorological data and mapping meteorological phenomenon, and any “correlation factors associated with geographical areas and/or a plurality of stored data about spreading patterns” is directed only to a meteorological threat.

Independent Claim 25, in contrast, is directed to a system that stores a plurality of correlation factors associated with geographical areas and/or a plurality of “stores data about spreading patterns, wherein ***each of said plurality of correlation factors associated with geographical areas and/or plurality of stored data about spreading patterns correspond to a different one of a plurality of specific risks including risks associated with technical, ecological, geological, meteorological, epidemiological, cultural, political and economical systems***”. Thus, the system recited in independent Claim 25 is configured to store a plurality of different “correlation factors associated with geographical areas and/or a plurality of stored

data about spreading patterns” that correspond to at least a plurality of different specific risks, and not only a meteorological risk, as is the case in Wilson.

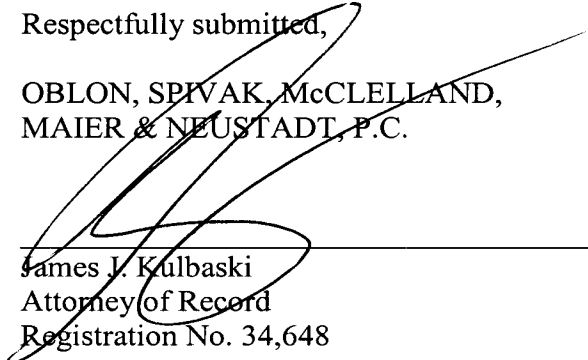
Wilson, therefore, fails to teach or suggest that his system includes a server that includes “a memory configured to store a plurality of correlation factors associated with geographical areas and/or a plurality of stored data about spreading patterns, wherein *each of said plurality of correlation factors associated with geographical areas and/or plurality of stored data about spreading patterns correspond to one of a plurality of specific risks including risks associated with technical, ecological, geological, meteorological, epidemiological, cultural, political and economical systems*”, as recited in amended independent Claim 25.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 25 (and Claims 26-32, which depend therefrom) under 35 U.S.C. § 102 be withdrawn. For substantially similar reasons, it is also submitted that independent Claims 33 and 41 (and Claims 34-40 and 42-48, which depend therefrom) patentably define over Wilson.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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